Post-Hearing Questions for the Record Submitted to Mr. Stephen F. Lewis From Senator Tom A. Coburn, M.D.

"Safeguarding Our Nation's Secrets: Examining the Security Clearance Process" June 20, 2013

Question: Has your office requested and, if requested, been provided data by OPM Federal Investigative Services justifying the cost of its investigation process, specifically the price breakdown per investigation?

Answer: To date, the Department of Defense has not received a breakout of the costs for the OPM investigation process that contains sufficient detail to validate the impact of each different type of cost on OPM's prices.

On August 4, 2012, Deputy Secretary of Defense Carter sent a letter to OPM Director, John Berry, highlighting the need for renewed attention on the acquisition of security investigations. "While our two organizations benefit from the familiarity of being each other's largest stakeholder in this business area, I am convinced this acquisition requires new levels of leadership commitment, transparency, and information sharing to ensure the best interests of both organizations are met." The letter directed the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, the Deputy Chief Management Officer, and the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) to engage in a review of the DoD acquisition of background investigation products, services and the support from OPM and other providers, where appropriate. In addition, the Deputy Secretary requested the full cooperation of OPM experts to provide information needed to review and analyze any perceived business problems, identify capability gaps, and determine viable solutions to optimize DoD's investment in investigative products and services.

Post-Hearing Questions for the Record Submitted to Stephen Lewis From Senator Claire McCaskill

"Safeguarding Our Nation's Secrets: Examining the Security Clearance Process"

June 20, 2013

Question: What are the criteria that the Department of Defense follows in determining whether to grant security clearances?

Answer: In adjudicating eligibility for access to classified information or assignment to sensitive duties, the Department applies the Presidentially-approved Federal "Adjudicative Guidelines for Determining Eligibility for Access to Classified Information" which apply to civilian and military persons, consultants, contractors, and others who require access to classified information.

Question: What are the criteria that the Department of Defense follows in determining whether to revoke security clearances?

Answer: A decision to revoke a clearance eligibility is based on the application of the Presidentially-approved Federal "Adjudicative Guidelines for Determining Eligibility for Access to Classified Information" which apply to civilian and military persons, consultants, contractors, and others who require access to classified information. In addition, the DoD complies with Public Law 110-181, Section 3002 Security Clearances; Limitations, which restricts granting access to special access programs, access to Special Compartmented Information, and Restricted data.

Question: How many security clearances has the Department of Defense revoked in the last five years?

	# of
Fiscal Year	Revocations
FY13 Q1 and Q2	2,669
FY12	5,479
FY11	4,837
FY10	3,489
FY09	2,835
Total	19,309

Question: During the hearing, you stated that the Department of Defense is working with the acquisition community to address the fact that the government often pays premiums for contracts that include security cleared individuals despite the fact that the government itself paid for the individuals' security clearances. What is the status of this reform?

Answer: On behalf of DoD, I testified that I would follow up with the acquisition community in response to the congressional statement that the Department was paying premiums for contracts that include cleared contractor personnel. I contacted USD(AT&L) Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, who advised that there is no acquisition policy to pay premiums for contracts requiring cleared personnel. However, additional costs covering administrative functions associated with cleared personnel, e.g., security officer, training, and education, are often included in contracts.